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Schools

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



BLOOMFIELD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT

*Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools
Bloomfield, New Jersey*

1969 - 1970

MEMBERS OF THE BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Gentlemen:

Nearly eleven years ago I outlined, at the Board's request, the future building needs of the Bloomfield Schools. These included extensive renovations and additions to the Senior High School. Since that time some improvements have been made, but the major project at the high school still remains the most critical problem in the district.

Since Bloomfield became a Type II district in November, 1969, the voters now elect the Board of Education, decide school budgets, and determine by special election any school building projects. Before this year's end, they will have the opportunity of examining the Board's plans for high school improvement, and deciding by their votes if we are to move ahead.

Much careful study has been given to the problem over the past years. It is my hope that we shall be able to provide a better facility for our youth, the kind they richly deserve and need.

Sincerely yours,
Frank B. Stover
Superintendent of Schools

Bloomfield, New Jersey

July, 1970

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

1969 - 1970

Total Average Enrollment	8,408
School Buildings Operated	17
Supervisors and Principals	21
Teachers	429
Other Employees (Full and part-time)	207
Day School Cost Per Pupil in	
Total Average Enrollment	\$834.42
Day School Expenditures	
(Without new buildings, etc.)	\$7,015,777.94

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The following resume indicates the progress which has been made to date in the improvement of the Senior High School.

History of Bloomfield Senior High School

1. First part built in 1911. Additions were built in 1923 and 1928.
- 1.a. 1952 - Capital schedule of the Board included new maintenance building and new gym.
2. Columbia Survey was made in 1954. At that time only 1342 pupils were enrolled in senior high. Recommended:
 - Additional facilities for choral and vocal music.
 - Also industrial arts, fine arts, homemaking, and distributive education.
 - Better room for student activities.
 - Construction of new maintenance facility.
 - Rehabilitation of heating, lighting, ventilating, etc. of existing structure.
3. After 1954 Forest Glen and North Junior High School were built. Rehabilitation programs were conducted in many elementary schools and in the senior high school 1954-1958.
4. Superintendent's Report, November 1959.
 - Noted Middle States 1956 Report calling for same projects as Columbia Survey, plus guidance and library. Called for adding to and improving present plant. No other suitable site believed available.
 - Noted same defects plus general renovation.
 - Called for new gym, new maintenance facility, new industrial arts, home economics, music, classroom facilities, and Foley Field South.
5. Follow-up shows:
 - Complete survey by Micklewright architects, 1962, prior to building gym.
 - Chemistry labs built 1963.
 - New gym completed in 1964.
 - Rehabilitation of old boys gym, 1964.
 - New physics labs, 1966.
 - New Service Center, 1966.
 - 1966 — New Middle State Evaluation, calling for same improvements.
 - 1966-67 — Search for architects.
 - First schematics for study. Staff committee formed in early 1968.
 - Visits by state department officials — 1968.

First projects considered too costly 1969.

Employment of Dr. McCormick as consultant 1969.

Note: 1962-1968 — four all purpose rooms were built at five older elementary schools.

6. Middle States and State Department recommendations and approval.

The architect, Mr. Emil Schmidlin of East Orange, has submitted plans for an addition to the existing high school and renovations within the building. The Board, after carefully reviewing these plans with staff and the educational consultant, Dr. Felix J. McCormick, has decided to have a public hearing to discuss the proposal. The estimated cost for the total proposal would be between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000. However, the first phase for additions would approximate \$3,500,000.

It is essential that action be taken as soon as possible since building costs have been rising rapidly for many years. The Board has considered many alternate proposals including other locations, and has reached the conclusion that the program it is presenting is in the best interests of the schools and town.

Narcotics

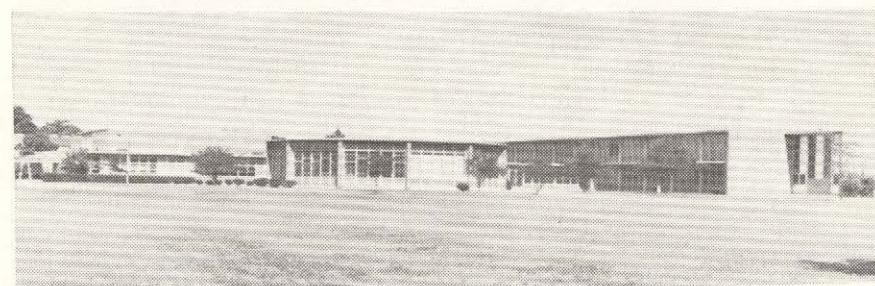
A matter of great national, state, and local concern has been the increasing use of narcotics by youth. For the past several years we have been on the alert to the problem. While this has not been as serious in our community as in some others, we have had some incidents and are fully aware that all educational preventive procedures are indicated. The following is a summary of the steps which have been taken over the past year or more concerned with the problem of drugs in the school and community.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS DRUG PROGRAM

1. All secondary teachers briefed by the chief school psychologist and juvenile officer on symptoms, detection and other aspects of drug problem.
2. In midwinter, Director of Health, Physical Education and Safety visited 5th and 6th grades in all public and parochial schools to discuss drugs.
3. Director of Health, Physical Education and Safety attended workshop in Atlantic City, sponsored by state department.
4. May 20th — workshop was held for nurses, physical education and health instructors and guidance counselors. Dr. Rodman of Rutgers, the juvenile officer, Lieutenant Hella, and Dr. Willis, our chief psychologist, acted as consultants.



SOUTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



NORTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

5. Several films on narcotics were tried out in some senior high classes. Student reactions were solicited; most thought films should be shown at earlier grade levels. Parents were also shown films at an evening program.
6. A staff member is presently attending the State Department of Education workshop in Newark for three weeks. He will be used as a chief resource in the fall workshops mentioned below. This workshop is to develop a curriculum guide for narcotics education K-12.
7. In the fall of 1970, all secondary teachers will be attending approximately four of eight afternoon workshops on narcotics to be held between September 15 and December 15, according to a state law recently passed.



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING



WATSESSING SCHOOL

In the field of detection, the administrative staff of each secondary school has cooperated with the local juvenile bureau, and the reverse has been true. Unfortunately, even when "pushers" have been apprehended in school, and prosecuted, the courts have dismissed them without penalty, or placing them on probation.

When students appear to be under the influence of drugs, parents are contacted. Frequently, police interrogation follows. If students are excluded from school for such reasons, they are readmitted only after consultation with the Child Guidance Department. Parents may also be requested to confer.

The Municipal Youth Guidance Council recently sponsored a community wide drive and an evening program, attended by about 700 persons. They are studying feasibility of a local center. Students in schools participated in an essay contest. Nearly 50 prizes were awarded.

Another project under discussion would involve additional counseling services from the League for Family Service.

Local service clubs have had programs, and provided some literature for the schools.

New Developments in Senior High School

In Business Education the department plans to have team teaching for next year. In Distributive Education the pupils had their usual success, winning four first place awards in a state-wide contest.

In English a series of linguistic workshops are planned for English teachers grades 7-12. Test books and workshops will be used this year to assist in inaugurating a program in grades 7-12. A popular program sponsored by the English Department was a "poetry sing-out" this spring. Trips continue to enliven the English curriculum, such as a visit to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for a Greek exhibition and one on the year 1200, a Broadway play, a visit to the Stratford Theatre, and visits to the Princeton McCarter Theatre. In addition to an exchange of teachers within the department, there has been an exchange of teachers in all the humanities, including English, fine arts, social studies, and foreign languages.

When future facilities are available, the department hopes to have more elective courses, more audio-visual equipment and classroom libraries, conference space for teachers and students, and facilities to improve teachers who have difficulty.

Art

A new development this year was an increase in three dimensional sculpture.

Foreign Language

New tapes and filmstrips to accompany new tests were purchased this year. As a result, there is more laboratory experience in the classroom, aside from the language laboratory. Bloomfield language students have gone abroad in the summer for educational tours before, and this year a number of French students will attend the University of Tours.

Home Economics still reports there is a shortage of space to accommodate all those who wish to enroll. Several projects for the girls were providing stuffed animals for the Children's Shelter in Belleville and cookies for the Veterans' Hospital in East Orange.

Industrial Arts

"Hot type" composing was introduced into graphic arts this year. There was a greater improvement in the space provided for electronics. The students in this course also took tours of NBC, Public Service power plant, and traffic control at Teterboro Airport. Students in woodworking classes were used as helpers for those students who were less advanced. For the first time a student in the General Motors School had his graduation from that school and from Bloomfield Senior High School combined.

Mathematics

In mathematics many visual aids are being used, particularly for the less academically inclined. General mathematics classes have new texts, and some sections have groups within the class, similar to grouping at lower grade levels.

Music

At Christmas time the high school had its first evening holiday program in many years. This attracted a large crowd and was a great success. During the year 265 students participated in five vocal groups. We had some outstanding instrumentalists, four of whom qualified for both North Jersey and all state groups.

Science

In science, the teacher found that programmed materials used for experiments in Physical Science were repetitious and monotonous. In Earth Science, the department is now using the Earth Science Curriculum Project. In a number of science areas, concept loops will be used as an audio visual aid extensively.

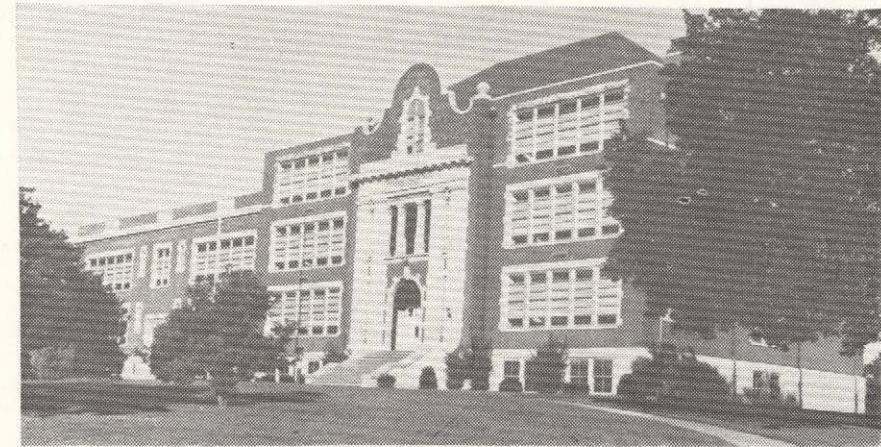
Social Science

In social science, the staff members are considering new elective courses which will be offered when facilities are available. They are also considering more heterogeneous grouping of students. A workshop on negro history was held with Mrs. Nida Thomas of the State Department of Education. Conferences were

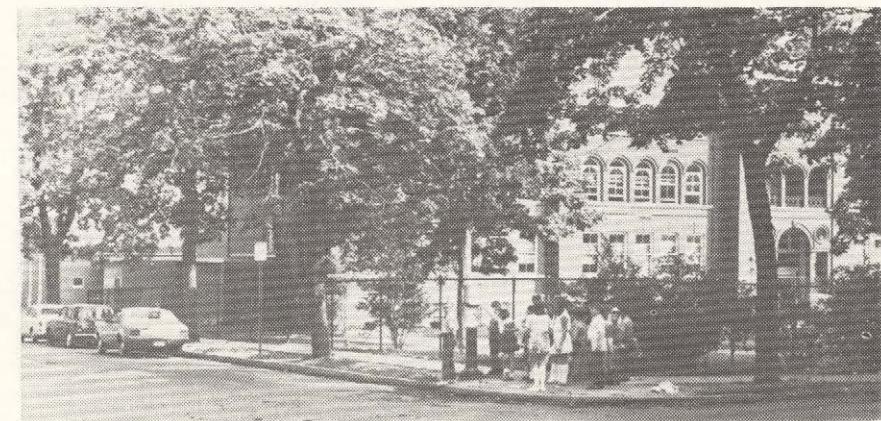
also held with Bloomfield Better Human Relations Council to discuss multi-ethnic approaches to curriculum. Celebration of Earth Day will not end with 1970, since this department, together with the science department, is seeking ways to weave ecology into the curriculum.

Library

The library instructed over 600 classes in the proper use of this facility, and now has an average daily attendance of over 350. Some discussion forums were held. There has been an increase in students coming in on their own.



BROOKDALE SCHOOL



BROOKSIDE SCHOOL

Guidance

In guidance, computer-scheduling went better in its second year. However, the first try at computer report cards encountered many difficulties. This was primarily due to a change in the computer company's procedures and difficulties which the company encountered. While the work for classroom teachers was less, work for the guidance counselors and administrators increased. Another system will be tried in the coming year.

One hundred sixty colleges and twenty industries appeared to interview students. Vocational guidance, both for college bound and non-college bound students, is being introduced into junior English courses. The counselors again comment on the lack of proper conference space, especially as more and more parents do request conferences.

SOUTH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

A testimonial to video tape playback equipment is given in a report from the Science Department in this school:

"Science instruction was given a lift this year. The school acquired a closed circuit TV System.

Lecture-demonstration, a method long used by science teachers, has its limitations. Demonstrations performed by the teacher are not readily observable by the total class. The size of the equipment and the physical make-up of the classroom preclude all students getting an equal view.

This year many students saw demonstrations from angles never possible before. The use of the television camera for close-up views of detailed operations put the student, all the students, right up on the demonstration table. This, coupled with the fact that intricate demonstrations could be completed beforehand and stored on tape for replay, opens many new doors in science instruction."

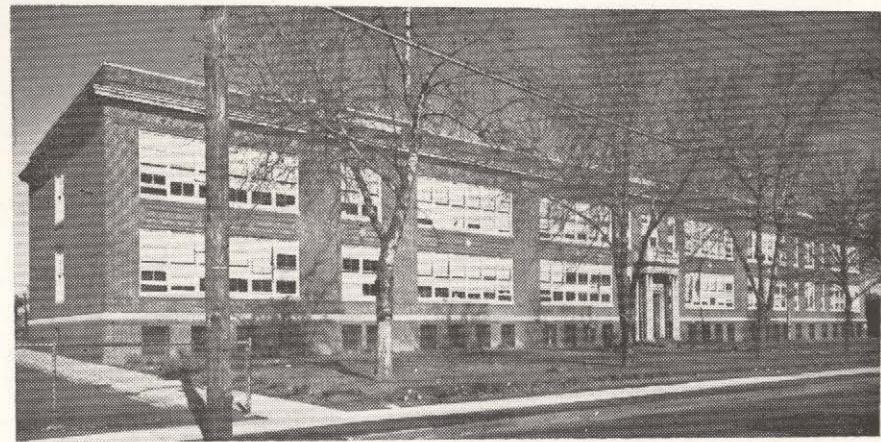
This equipment was also used for demonstrations in mechanical drawing, mathematics, art, and the study of narcotics.

The Introduction to Vocations group had a unique project this year. They were commissioned by the State Department of Education to develop game boards to be used in illustrating careers in transportation. This game resembles Monopoly, and one hundred game boards were made to order by a silk-screening process.

The chairman of the Social Studies Department believes that revision in this course of study is imperative in view of contemporary conditions. Much of what the pupils study, he believes, is not really relevant to the problems they see around them today.



DEMAREST SCHOOL



CARTERET SCHOOL



FRANKLIN SCHOOL

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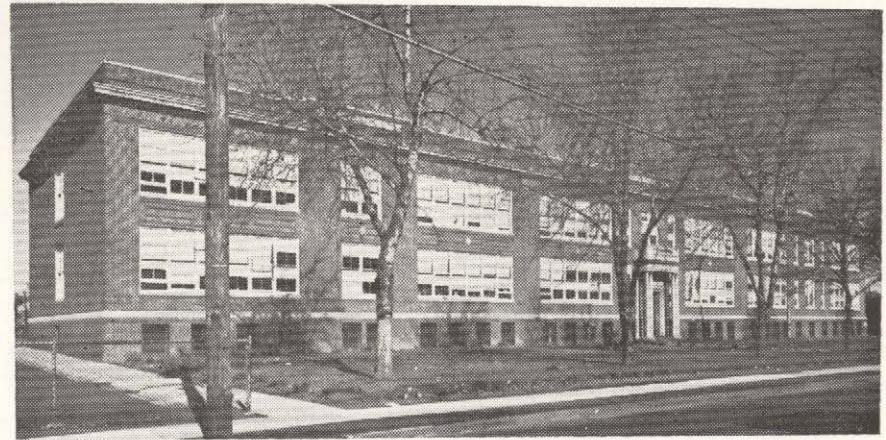
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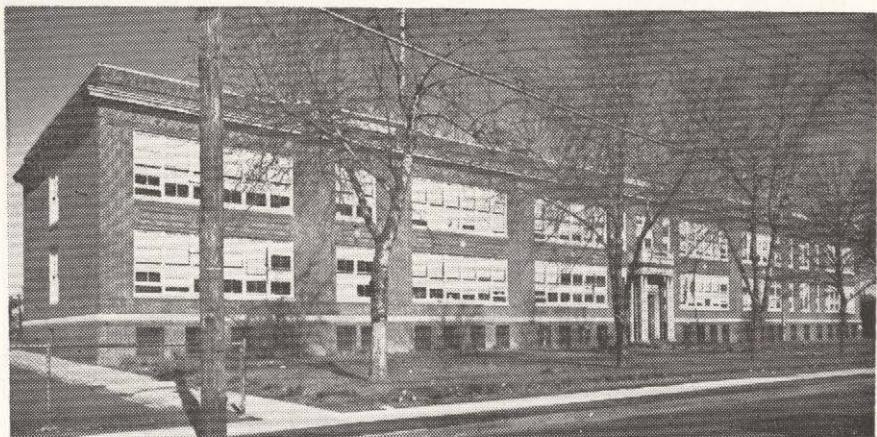
CARTERET SCHOOL



FRANKLIN SCHOOL



DEMAREST SCHOOL



CARTERET SCHOOL



FRANKLIN SCHOOL

our enrollments have been growing, we are accepting tuition cases only on a hardship basis.

The juvenile cases, which have been reported to the local Conference Committee, have been fewer in number but of a more serious nature. We feel, however, that in most instances this committee can deal more effectively with the cases than the courts.



FAIRVIEW SCHOOL



FOREST GLEN SCHOOL

Curriculum

Dr. Fredric M. Lavenburg, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Curriculum and Instruction, has prepared a summary report of curriculum changes which took place in the Bloomfield schools during the "Sixties," and forecasts of changes in the "Seventies." A limited number of copies are available upon request.

ELEMENTARY

There has been a growth in recent years of the "lateral exchange" organizations. When there are three sections per grade, the students may be placed into three groups — high, medium, and low, and assigned to the three different grade teachers in mathematics, for example. This allows for a level of instruction more suited to their ability. This year four schools reported success with this plan.

Most schools gave suitable observation to "Earth Day" and will continue their studies of ecology in science on a broader scale in the year ahead. Beautification and clean-up are only two aspects of this critical problem.

Next year there will be some sections of I.T.A. in nine of our ten elementary schools. Our use of this approach to reading has produced remarkable results in writing, spelling and the language arts in general. Boys, especially, seem more interested in reading.

Reading laboratories have been in operation in many classrooms. These are designed to help the student at whatever level of achievement he may be, and to break the lockstep of class or group instruction.

Other developments include some sixth graders acting as helpers in the first grade, a laboratory for organizing and reporting information, team teaching, the use of the tachistoscope in spelling, and the gradual introduction of linguistics in all grades.

Many class sizes have exceeded slightly the desirable 25-30 goal we have consistently set. This may occur during the next year also. However, a pre-school survey conducted by the schools and the parents has indicated a sharp decrease in the kindergarten for 1970 and the years immediately ahead. This trend is in keeping with that reported by state and national sources.

Our aim, in very troubled times, will continue to be emphasis on the individual — to avoid the dehumanized approach which is causing our society such trouble. The roots of violence and anti-social behavior are found in the early years of childhood. It is our duty to prevent bad attitudes at an early age.



GEORGE MORRIS SCHOOL



OAK VIEW SCHOOL

MAJOR BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS SUMMER 1969

Senior High School

1. Parapet walls were waterproofed and a new roof was installed on the band room wing of this building.
2. Partial interior painting was completed.
3. A new serving counter was installed in the student cafeteria.
4. Two buildings were removed from lots adjacent to the high school to permit future expansion.

5. The roof of the main building was recoated and the flashings were treated as our preventive maintenance program was continued.
6. An electronics classroom was installed on the ground floor.
7. Slate chalkboard reconditioning was continued on a programmed basis.
8. A new AVA workroom and office were built.

South Junior High School

1. New oil burners were installed, replacing obsolete ones.
2. Corridor lockers in part of the building were repainted.
3. A Home Economics kitchen was repainted.
4. New auditorium side curtains are being installed.

Elementary Schools

Miscellaneous pipe covering was completed in four elementary schools for improved safety and temperature control.

Berkeley School

1. An additional class room was constructed in this school.
2. Additional duplex outlets were installed in each classroom throughout.
3. Aluminum windows were installed throughout this building.

Carteret School

1. Partial interior painting and exterior painting were completed.
2. The playground and parking lot were resurfaced.

Brookside School

1. One new classroom was constructed.
2. Duplex outlets were installed in classrooms.

Demarest School

1. Portions of the building were waterproofed.
2. Partial interior painting was completed.
3. Defective concrete floors were replaced.

Watsessing School

1. The exterior of this school was painted.
2. Grounds drainage improvement was completed.
3. One classroom floor was retiled.
4. An additional classroom was converted on the ground floor.

Fairview School

1. Partial interior painting was completed.
2. Grounds drainage improvement was completed.

Brookdale School

1. The exterior of this school was painted.
2. Duplex outlets were installed at specified locations.

George Morris School

1. The exterior of the school was painted.
2. Electrical outlets were added in all classrooms.

Franklin School

1. Exterior of the school was repainted.
2. Several classroom floors were retiled.

Administration Building

1. The exterior of this building was repainted.
2. Partial interior painting was completed.

Forest Glen School

1. Modifications were done to the fuel oil tank.
A program of fuel oil tank cleaning was continued.
 2. Outdoor basketball backboards were installed at three elementary schools and at North Junior High School.
- Five hundred eighty-one (581) work orders in all trade areas were completed.

G. L. Sutton



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION 1969 - 1970

Seated left to right: Dr. F. Thomas Juster, Mr. Vincent J. Biunno, President; Mr. Harold Brotherhood, Mr. Victor M. Krygowski, Vice-President; Mr. James P. Dennison.

Standing left to right: Mr. Paul J. Holveck, Mr. James F. Mulvihill, Administrative Assistant; Mr. Paul Alongi, Mr. Robert E. Morris, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Business and Board Secretary; Mr. George L. Sutton, Administrative Assistant and Assistant Board Secretary; Mr. Ben Spitz, Mr. Edward C. Rasp, Jr., Dr. Frank B. Stover, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Fredric M. Lavenburg, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Curriculum and Instruction.